

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 08509 01 OF 03 301753Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00  
ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 L-03 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 EPA-01 CEQ-01 DOE-15 SOE-02 /125 W  
-----014692 301834Z /47

R 301721Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6628  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 03 LONDON 08509

DEPT PASS TO DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COAST GUARD  
PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EWWT, PORG, IMCO  
SUBJECT: IMCO: 40TH REGULAR COUNCIL SESSION

1. SUMMARY. REFLECTING BROAD CONSENSUS AMONG LDC  
MEMBERS, COUNCIL ELECTED ALHAJI WALI OF NIGERIA  
AS VICE CHAIRMAN. MOST IMPORTANT WORK DESCRIBED  
HEREIN WAS CONSIDERATION OF RESULTS OF FEBRUARY  
CONFERENCE ON TANKER SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVEN-  
TION (TSPP). COUNCIL AUTHORIZED SECGEN AND IMCO  
TO ACCEPT AND PERFORM FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED BY  
TSPP PROTOCOLS. SECGEN MADE IMPASSIONED PLEA  
FOR AUTHORITY AND WHEREWITHAL TO MOUNT SUSTAINED  
EFFORT TO BRING ABOUT WIDE AND PROMPT IMPLEMENTATION  
OF TSPP PROTOCOLS. IN RESPONSE, COUNCIL AUTHORIZED  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 08509 01 OF 03 301753Z

PREPARATION OF BOOKLET ON TSPP, HOLDING OF FOUR  
TECHNICAL SEMINARS, RECRUITMENT OF TWO ADDITIONAL  
TEMPORARY SPECIAL CONSULTANTS, AND ADDITION OF TWO  
POSITIONS TO TECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENT DIVISIONS.  
USDEL TOOK LEAD IN APPEALING FOR SUPPORT OF THESE  
MEASURES. WORK ON POSSIBLE CHANGES IN ASSESSMENT  
FORMULA WAS REVIEWED WITHOUT ANY LIBERIAN ATTEMPT

TO PRESS FOR IMMEDIATE CHANGE. PERMANENT MISSIONS QUESTION GENERATED SOME HEAT (AND SOVIET DISPLEASURE) AFTER MEXICO URGED DELETION OF ITEM FROM FUTURE AGENDAS BUT MATTER WAS RESOLVED THROUGH COMPROMISE FORMULATION. UNGA RESOLUTIONS WERE HANDLED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID AROUSING POLITICAL SENSIBILITIES. COUNCIL HANDLED LARGE AMOUNT OF OTHER ROUTINE BUSINESS WITH DISPATCH. END SUMMARY

2. ON MORNING OF FIRST DAY, LDC SUPPORT FOR ELECTION OF NIGERIAN ALHAJI A. S. WALI AS COUNCIL VICE CHAIRMAN COALESCED RAPIDLY, AND WESTERN COUNTRIES ABANDONED ANY THOUGHT OF PROPOSING DEVELOPED COUNTRY CANDIDATE (I.E. O'NEIL OF CANADA). FOL-LOWING NOMINATING SPEECH BY PAKISTAN AND SECONDING SPEECH BY LIBERIA, COUNCIL ELECTED WALI BY ACCLAMATION AT SUGGESTION OF MEXICO.

3. COUNCIL QUICKLY CONCLUDED LARGE AMOUNT OF ROUTINE BUSINESS. RULES OF PROCEDURE WERE AMENDED TO INCREASE SIZE OF QUORUM FROM 12 TO 16 (REFLECTING 1978 ENLARGEMENT OF COUNCIL). AFTER REVIEWING STATUS OF VARIOUS CONVENTIONS, SECGEN APPEALED TO COUNCIL MEMBERS TO HELP ACCELERATE RATE OF ACCESSION, NOTING UNFAVORABLE PRESS COMMENTARY ON SLOW IMPLEMENTATION OF IMCO CONVENTIONS. WORK OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LONDON 08509 01 OF 03 301753Z

WORKING GROUP ON ASSESSMENTS WAS REVIEWED, AND LIBERIA MADE NO EFFORT TO PRESS FOR IMMEDIATE CHANGE IN ASSESSMENT FORMULA. FOLLOWING REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, COUNCIL REAFFIRMED ITS INSTRUCTIONS TO WORKING GROUP ON HEADQUARTERS FACILITIES TO SEEK BRITISH GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR MEETINGS HELD OUTSIDE PRESENT HEADQUARTERS IN INTERIM. VARIOUS FINANCIAL REPORTS WERE REVIEWED WITH LITTLE OR NO COMMENT. COUNCIL PRAISED GENERAL SERVICES STAFF FOR REQUESTING ONLY 9.1 PER CENT SALARY RAISE DESPITE 12 PER CENT INFLATION RATE. SECGEN NOTED IMPROVEMENT IN ARREARS OF CONTRIBUTION SITUATION, DUE TO FULL PAYMENT OF ARREARS BY HONDURAS AND EQUADOR. DURING DISCUSSION OF ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT, IT WAS NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO DRAWING ON ANNUAL BUDGET TO MEET TECHNICAL COOPERATION OVERHEAD. COUNCIL AUTHORIZED SECGEN TO MAKE NECESSARY TRANSFERS BETWEEN SECTIONS OF 1978 BUDGET AND POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING DECISION ON DISPOSITION OF 1977 CASH SURPLUSES.

4. IN COURSE OF REVIEW OF COMMITTEE REPORTS, FRENCH  
DEL URGED THAT LEGAL COMMITTEE CONSIDER REVISION

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PAGE 01 LONDON 08509 02 OF 03 301755Z  
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FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 L-03 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 EPA-01 CEQ-01 DOE-15 SOE-02 /125 W  
-----014705 301835Z /47

R 301721Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6629  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 03 LONDON 08509

OF 1910 ASSISTANCE AND SALVAGE CONVENTION ON  
PRIORITY BASIS, CAUTIONING, HOWEVER, THAT THIS  
PROJECT SHOULD NOT IMPINGE ON WORK TO DEVELOP  
LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION REGIME FOR HAZARDOUS  
SUBSTANCES OTHER THAN OIL-- WHICH IS ALSO OF GREAT  
IMPORTANCE TO FRANCE. COUNCIL APPROVED FACILITATION  
COMMITTEE REPORT INCLUDING RECOMMENDATION FOR INTER-  
SESSIONAL WORKING GROUP ON ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING.  
IN APPROVING FACILITATION COMMITTEE REPORT, COUNCIL  
ADDED RECOMMENDATION THAT IN DEVELOPING DOCUMENTATION  
ON SHIPS CARRYING NUCLEAR/NOXIOUS MATERIALS IN  
INNOCENT PASSAGE, COMMITTEE SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT  
WORK OF 3RD LOS. COUNCIL APPROVED REPORT OF 8TH  
MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE (MEPC).  
DURING REVIEW OF MEPC REPORT, SEC GEN SAID HE INTENDED  
TO ISSUE CIRCULAR URGING FAST ACCESSION TO TSPP  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 08509 02 OF 03 301755Z

PROTOCOLS. SECGEN ALSO URGED IMCO MEMBERS TO ASK THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL TO SUPPORT LARGER ALLOCATION OF UNEP FUNDS FOR OCEAN PROGRAMS. COUNCIL DEFERRED DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF 38TH SESSION OF MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE (MSC), BUT DID ACT ON SECTION RELATED TO AMOCO CADIZ DISASTER (REPORTED SEPTTEL) AND APPROVED MSC RECOMMENDATION THAT LEGAL COMMITTEE CONSIDER, ON URGENT BASIS, DEFINITION OF "OWNER" FOR NUCLEAR SHIP CODE.

5. COUNCIL APPROVED REPORT OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE (TCC) AND FAVORABLY NOTED AN EVER INCREASING LIST OF PRESENT AND PAST PROJECTS, ALL OF WHICH ARE FUNDED BY OTHER THAN ASSESSED BUDGET FUNDS. COUNCIL URGED MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO SUPPORT SECGEN'S REQUEST FOR FOUR ADDITIONAL INTERREGIONAL ADVISERS AT THE JUNE SESSION OF UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL AND ALSO TO MAKE THEIR SUPPORT KNOWN TO THE ADMINISTRATOR OF UNDP.

6. ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT MISSIONS TO IMCO AROUSED CONSIDERABLE DEBATE AFTER MEXICO, SUPPORTED BY CANADA, URGED THAT IN VIEW OF PAUCITY OF RESPONSES TO SECGEN'S INQUIRY MATTER BE CONSIDERED CLOSED AND DROPPED FROM FUTURE COUNCIL AGENDAS. USSR (ORIGINATOR OF IDEA) OBJECTED AND URGED SECGEN TO SEND MORE LETTERS OF INQUIRY. AS COMPROMISE, IT WAS EVENTUALLY AGREED THAT SECGEN WOULD CONTINUE TO GATHER OPINIONS AND WOULD REPORT TO COUNCIL IN SPRING OF 1979, AT WHICH TIME COUNCIL WOULD MAKE FINAL DECISION ON WHETHER TO CONTINUE THE ITEM ON ITS AGENDA.

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PAGE 03 LONDON 08509 02 OF 03 301755Z

7. ON UN MATTERS, SECGEN PRESENTED UNGA RESOLUTIONS IN SUCH A WAY THAT ONLY THREE OF DIRECT CONCERN TO IMCO (32/9, 32/99, AND 32/197) WERE DISCUSSED. POLITICALLY SENSITIVE RESOLUTION 32/40 (ON INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS) NOT EVEN INCLUDED IN LIST PREPARED FOR COUNCIL MEETING. COUNCIL ALSO HEARD ACCOUNT OF EFFORTS TO RESTRUCTURE UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS AND APPROVED IMCO PLAN TO CONTRIBUTE TO UN CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

COUNCIL ALSO ADOPTED RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING IMCO'S INTEREST IN SAFETY AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF CONTAINERIZATION AND MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT. SECGEN REVIEWED DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN IMCO AND UNCTAD; COUNCIL APPROVED STAND SECGEN HAD TAKEN ON PROPOSED REVISION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE OF UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING; AND UNCTAD REPRESENTATIVE (DUBROVSKY) MADE SPEECH PRAISING IMCO-UNCTAD COOPERATION. COUNCIL ROUTINELY APPROVED MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING PROVIDING FOR CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION WITH UNIDO AND UNDRO AND REVIEWED COOPERATION WITH UNEP.

8. CONSIDERATION OF RELATIONS WITH INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS CENTERED ON PROVISION OF ARAB-LANGUAGE TEXT FOR AGREEMENT WITH ARAB LEAGUE. USDEL HAD FEARED REQUEST FOR AUTHENTIC ARABIC TEXT MIGHT BE FIRST STEP IN EFFORT TO HAVE IMCO USE ARABIC AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE. SECGEN ASSURED COUNCIL, HOWEVER, THAT ARAB LEAGUE WOULD PROVIDE ARABIC TEXT, WHICH IMCO WOULD ASK ANOTHER UN AGENCY TO COMPARE WITH ENGLISH TEXT.

9. CONSIDERATION OF WORK OF AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON CONSULTATIVE STATUS CENTERED ON QUESTION OF

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PAGE 04 LONDON 08509 02 OF 03 301755Z

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NNN

MRN: 1978LONDON008509 SEGMENT NUMBER: 000003 ERROR READING TEXT INDEX  
FILE; TELEGRAM TEXT FOR THIS SEGMENT IS UNAVAILABLE

## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 30 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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